## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 SAJ-01 OPR-02 SCCT-01 AID-05

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9708

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USNATO

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CINCUSAFE

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 4927

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, TU

SUBJ: RIOT DISRUPTS NAP RALLY IN DIYARBAKIR

REF: ANKARA 4886

SUMMARY: VIOLENCE ERUPTED AT A NATIONALIST ACTION PARTY (NAP) RELLY IN DIYARBAKIR ON JUNE 23, RESULTING IN TWO DEATHS. PARTISAN ACCUSATIONS CONTINUED OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR CIVIL DISTURBANCES. END SUMMARY.

1. FOR THE SECOND TIME IN THREE DAYS, VIOLENCE HAS DISRUPTED A TURKISH POLITICAL RALLY, THIS TIME IN THE EASTERN TURKISH CITY OF DIYARBAKIR, WHERE NAP CHAIRMAN ALPASLAN TURKES WAS SCHEDULED TO SPEAK. THE FIGHTING BEGAN BEFORE TURKES' ARRIVAL, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPORTEDLY BETWEEN HIS OWN SUPPORTERS AND THOSE OF THE

OPPOSITION REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP). THE CLASHES RESULTED IN TWO DEATHS AND SCORES OF INJURIES. MILITARY FORCES WERE CALLED IN TO RESTORE ORDER AND ABOUT 70 PERSONS WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY. THERE WAS NO RPT NO EVIDENCE OF ANTI-AMERICAN SLOGANS OR ACTIONS IN THE DIYARBAKIR EVENTS.

- 2. AFTER CALM WAS RESTORED, TURKES DELIVERED A BRIEF SPEECH IN THE CITY'S MAIN SQUARE IN WHICH HE ACCUSED THE RPP OF ORGANIZING THE INCIDENT. MEANWHILE, IN ANKARA PRIMIN SULEYMAN DEMIREL, EMERGING FROM A LATE NIGHT SPECIAL SESSION OF THE TURKISH CABINET, DECLARED THAT ALL LEGITIMATE MEASURES WOULD BE TAKEN TO MAINTAIN "TRANQUILITY AND PEACE" IN THE COUNTRY
- 3. THE DIYARBAKIR INCIDENT, OCCURING JUST TWO DAYS AFTER VIOLENCE BROKE OUT AT AN RPP RALLED IN GEREDE (REFTEL), HAS PROMPTED A FURTHER ROUND OF ACCUSATIONS OVER RESPONSIBLITY FOR OUTBREAKS OF CIVIL DISORDER. DIYARBAKIR ASSISTANT GOVERNOR AHMET RUSTEM REPORTEDLY CHARGED THAT RPP DEPUTY SECGEN' MUSTAFA USTUNDAG HAD ORGANIZED THE RIOT, A CHARGE WHICH USTUNDAG DENIED, CLAIMING HE HAD BEEN IN ANKARA SINCE JUNE 22 AFTER A TOUR OF EASTERN PROVINCES. THE RPP CENTRAL HEAD-QUARTERS HAS SENT A TEAM TO INVESTIGATE THE INCIDENT. ALSO, RPP LEADER ECEVIT WILL ADDRESS THE PARTY'S JOINT PARLIAMENTARY GROUP ON JUNE 24 REGARDING THE INCIDENTS, WHILE THE PARTY REPORTEDLY WILL INTRODUCE IN PARLIAMENT A MOTION OF CENSURE OVER THESE RIOTS.
- 4. EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON THE GEREDE AND DIYARBAKIR INCIDENTS CONTINUED TO FOLLOW PARTISAN LINES.

A. CONSERVATIVE DUNYA CALLED FOR AN IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATION OF THE EVENTS IN GEREDE, BUT COMMENTED THAT ECEVIT HAD PROBABLY INVITED A REACTION BY RESORTING TO "EXTREME ACTION."

B. CONSERVATIVE ADALET CHARGED THAT THE RPP HAD ARRANGED PUBLIC DISTURBANCES PRIOR TO 1960 BUT THATTHE TIME HAS NOW PASSED WHEN "INTELLECTUALS" CAN PULL THE COUNTRY INTO CONFUSION.

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C. PRO-RPP BARIS, HOWEVER, DESCRIBED THE GEREDE INCIDENT AS A PLOT AGAINST DEMOCRACY WITH STICKS, STONES, CURSES AND GUNS. THE COMMENTARY ALSO COMPARED THE PRESENT SITUATION TO THE PERIOD PRIOR TO MARCH 12, 1971 WHEN DEMIREL WAS FINALLY FORCED TO RESIGN AS PRIMIN BY MILITARY INTERVENTION IN THE FACE OF GROWING PUBLIC DISORDER.

5. COMMENT: WITH THE GEREDE AND DIYARBAKIR INCIDENTS,

THE CONTINUING CIVIL DISTURBANCES IN THE COUNTRY--WHICH HERE-TO FORE HAD GENERALLY BEEN CONFINED TO CLASHES BETWEEN RIVAL EXTREMIST STUDENT GROUPS OVER CAMPUS ISSUES--HAVE BECOME MORE EXPLICITLY LINKED TO NATIONAL POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS. MOREOVER, THE INCREASING BITTERNESS BETWEEN THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT AND THE OPPOSITION PARTIES OVER THIS ISSUE--FUELED BY PUBLIC STATEMENTS ACCUSING POLITICAL OPPONENTS OF INSTIGATING THE EVENTS--COULD PROMPT EXTREMIST SUPPORTERS OF BOTH SIDES TO STAGE INCREASINGLY SERIOUS INCIDENTS AGAINST RIVAL POLITICAL LEADERS.

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## Message Attributes

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TAGS: PINT, PINS, TU, REPUBLICAN PEOPLES PARTY, NATIONALIST ACTION PARTY, (TURKES, ALPASLAN)
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